

Response Committee, the Yale Emergency Planning Committee, and the New Haven Terrorist Task Force.

Beyond his professional contributions, Harry has always generously donated his time and energies to local charitable organizations. Among many others, he has long been an advocate, fundraiser, and vocal supporter for the St. Jude's Hospital, the Marine Cadets of America, New Haven Teen Challenge, and the Leukemia Society. Harry has touched the lives of thousands and has left an indelible mark on this community.

It is an honor for me to stand today to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Harry DeBenedet for his countless contributions as he is named St. Michael's "Man of the Year." He has made such a difference and the City of New Haven is indeed a better place because of his good work.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAULA EDWARDS, NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL CREDIT UNIONS

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Paula Edwards, a fellow resident of Ohio on her recent election to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). Ms. Edwards, the President and CEO of Nationwide Federal Credit Union located in Columbus, Ohio, was elected as a regional director, representing the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Ms. Edwards has been associated with Nationwide FCU for more than 25 years. Ms. Edwards joined Nationwide FCU as the Operations Manager in 1975. Since that time, Ms. Edwards has served as the Services Manager for Nationwide's mutual fund operation, Nationwide Investing Foundation, she has served on the Nationwide FCU board of directors, including a three-year stint as chairwoman, and in 1989 she took over her current position as President and CEO of Nationwide FCU.

In addition, Ms. Edwards is active in a number of other activities including holding positions on the Corporate One FCU Board and Executive Committee. She is the Chair of Consumer Credit Counseling for the Midwest and she also serves on the Public Service Credit Union Strategic Advisory Group.

During her 25 years of service in the credit union community Ms. Edwards has made the financial literacy of her members a priority. In addition, Ms. Edwards has worked hard to build the credit union movement into what it is today; a healthy, competitive alternative to other financial institutions.

As a board member of NAFCU, she has distinguished herself as a leader in the only national trade association that exclusively represents the interests of America's federal credit unions, and I have no doubt that Ms. Edwards will serve NAFCU members as well as she has served her own credit union members. Again, I would like to congratulate Ms. Edwards on her new position and wish her the best of luck in this new role.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall No. 492, I would have voted "aye". I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 493, and "aye" on rollcall No. 494. I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 495. I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 496, and "aye" on rollcall No. 497. On rollcall No. 498, I would have voted "no". On rollcall No. 499, I would have voted "no". On rollcall No. 500, I would have voted "aye". On rollcall No. 501, I would have voted "aye". On rollcall No. 502, I would have voted "aye".

COMMENDING THE EMPLOYEE BENEFIT RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations to the Employee Benefit Research Institute as it celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Since I began serving the state of North Dakota in Congress, I have supported public policy that would encourage the growth of health and pension plans among private employers. I continuously turn to EBRI for the nonpartisan data I need in order to make legislative judgments in this area. To this end, I am especially thankful to EBRI and its superb, responsive and hard-working professional staff.

EBRI, led by Dallas Salisbury, is widely regarded by both political parties and the press as a knowledgeable and substantive source of information about employer-sponsored health and welfare plans. As Congress faces the monumental task of trying to sustain our employer-sponsored health and pension systems, I salute EBRI on its 25th anniversary, thank them for the important work they have performed over the years and recommend them to my colleagues who seek a deeper understanding of the policy options we confront. Congratulations. We will need your analysis even more in the 25 years that lie ahead.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share a few thoughts with my colleagues on this anniversary of the September 11, 2001, attacks against our nation. None of us will ever forget the day that members of the terrorist group al Qaeda destroyed the World Trade Center towers and attacked the Pentagon. The courageous action taken by the passengers aboard United Airlines Flight 93 prevented more carnage by crashing the aircraft in a Pennsylvania field. On that day nearly 3,000 innocent victims were murdered.

Like many of my colleagues, I lost constituents on that terrible morning. A number of them were personal friends of mine and of my family. Those of us who live in eastern Connecticut will never forget Josh Piver, Madeline Amy Sweeney, Ruth Clifford McCourt, Juliana Valentine McCourt, James Greenleaf Jr., Bruce Eagleson, James Hobin, Rick Thorpe and Eric Evans. All of them died far too soon; all of them left behind grieving families and friends.

The events of that day are burned indelibly in our minds and on our hearts. Like Americans always have, we immediately began to rise to the challenge. We put out the fires; we cleared the debris; we prayed for the deceased and their families; and we began the serious work of ensuring that such an act of war would never again visit our shores.

While we will never forget that day, sadly, some Americans, including some in this very Chamber, have either forgotten or failed to learn the lessons of those attacks. Until September 11, 2001, it was thought that in order to wage war against the United States the enemy would have to be a nation with a mighty army and enormous industrial capability. That is no longer the case. Today we live in a world in which a few dedicated and evil men, supported by a minimal amount of resources and armed with box cutters, brought to our shores death and destruction the likes of which we have never seen before. Those who died on September 11th and their families are the tragic witnesses to that reality. We have no greater responsibility than making sure it never happens again. Advances in communication and technology have created opportunities for the enemies of freedom and justice. Terrorists do not need huge armies. They do not need an industrial base. They have learned how to exploit the resources of the 21st Century. But they underestimate the resources and resolve of the American spirit.

America is engaged in a war. Today a major battleground is Iraq. We have weakened an evil regime in Afghanistan that gave al Qaeda support and we have removed Saddam Hussein from power. Our people have not suffered further attacks at home, not because our law enforcement agencies and our intelligence community have worked diligently to prevent further assaults. Congress has provided the tools they need to make America safer. And we have taken the fight to our enemies instead of waiting for them to continue their violence here. But the war is not over.

Some of us have expressed concern about the cost of the war—both in terms of funds and with regards to the even more precious cost in the lives of our fellow Americans. As a Vietnam veteran, I understand these issues personally and share those concerns every day.

In Connecticut's Second District, which I represent, two courageous heroes have given their lives in defense of freedom. Corporal Kemaphoom Chanawongse, 22 years old, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, was killed in action during operations on the outskirts of Nasiriya on March 23, 2003. Gunnery Sergeant Phillip Jordan, 2nd Marine Regiment, 42 years old, was killed in action near Nasiriya on March 23, 2003. Their families and they have made the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf. The price of defending our nation is great.

Every death of an American who wears our nation's uniform is one death too many. Families who lose a loved one will never be able to fill the void. But I also know this. As in other difficult wars our nation has fought, we send our forces abroad to meet the enemy in order to prevent the war from coming to our shores and to our homes. The front lines of the war on terrorism will either be in Kabul and Baghdad or they will be in New York, Washington or New London, Connecticut. We are doing the right thing for America and for the free people of the world. But doing the right thing is no guarantee against misfortune. The war will be long and difficult. So was the Cold War; so was World War II.

War is a terrible thing, but it is not the most terrible. Far worse are the evils that war can prevent and end—evils like the attacks of September 11th that took the lives of innocent people on their way to work, in their offices and flying on jet airliners. War is a moral undertaking when arms are taken against brutal despots and those who would destroy our people, our values and our nation. September 11th showed us with graphic clarity that there is great good and great evil in the world. As a free and resourceful nation, America must accept its obligations to lead in the world, and we must do so fully and without apology. As we debate how much the war on terrorism will cost; as we question how long the war will last; as we seek answers to how long it will take to bring stability to Iraq, let us realize that none of those important questions negates the righteousness of our cause and the necessity of our actions.

The enemies of freedom know what is at stake in Iraq and Afghanistan. If those nations fall back into the dark days of oppression and terror, those who seek the destruction of the United States will have achieved a significant victory—preserving abroad a climate of tyranny and breeding ground for terrorism. They are fighting to defeat our allies and us. The danger facing us is not that we will be drawn further into a difficult situation but that we will lose our will and quit before the work is done. In the past the terrorists have taken undue comfort from our lack of resolve. They believe that if they create enough chaos and generate enough American casualties, we will give up. They are wrong. We will not give up because we cannot afford to have the front lines of the war drawn in the United States. We will not give up because we will never forget those who died in the Twin Towers, and at the Pentagon and in a lonely field in Pennsylvania. We will not give up because in the words of President John F. Kennedy, "Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty."

Our enemies have declared war on us and they intend to win. We can fight the war on our terms or on theirs, but we cannot opt out. We cannot let the calls for an "exit strategy" become calls to retreat. May we have the wisdom to understand that this war is not about politics or elections, it is about survival. May we have the patience to know our mission is worthwhile. It is about ensuring that our children and grandchildren will inherit a nation that is free and just and whole. Our oath of office demands we meet these responsibilities to provide for the common defense.

Mr. Speaker, two years ago a cartoon published in the national news media pictured a young girl seated on her father's lap responding to a news article of the September 11 attacks on America. She asked him, "Will we hate back?" Two years later the answer is clear. Children of the victims of the World Trade Center attacks are reading the names of their loved ones into the record at Ground Zero in New York City. They are not doing it with hatred and vengeance but with remembrance and love. This is America's answer to those who would destroy us, and it is answer for future generations and the world.

THE DEATH OF EDWARD TELLER

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Edward Teller on Tuesday, the United States has lost one of our foremost physicists and a lifelong advocate for education. Through his leadership and vision, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in my district designed the nuclear weapons that have deterred world wars and the infrastructure that ensures the continuing safety, security, and reliability of our Nation's nuclear weapons stockpile without live testing.

His efforts were instrumental in creating the Livermore site at what was then the University of California Radiation Laboratory in 1952.

Teller served as the Laboratory's second director from 1958 to 1960, a time when it was well along in development of the U.S. Navy's Polaris missile warhead. Teller advanced Polaris, the Laboratory's first military design project. Polaris was validated in a test in 1958, a few months before nuclear testing was halted for a time by a voluntary moratorium.

The moratorium was one of Teller's greatest challenges. Faced with keeping the Laboratory viable without testing, plans were laid for a program exploring the peaceful uses of nuclear explosives called Project Plowshare.

In addition to his contributions to physics, Teller was a passionate educator and strongly believed that America needed more intensive scientific education to develop future generations of scientists and engineers.

Less than two months ago, Edward Teller was recognized for his contributions to science with the prestigious Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest honor.

As I work with the national laboratories on the cutting edge programs they have developed in multiple areas, I am constantly reminded of Edward Teller's legacy. I am saddened by this loss but know that he has made lasting and important contributions to the security of the United States. For that, we are all grateful.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, on this second September since the terrorist attacks of

2001, I think it is important to focus on what has kept our Nation strong.

In the darkest hours of September 11, many of us reached out to our loved ones. We did not understand why we were being attacked but we did know to reach for those people important to us. Let this be the reason why we gather today and remember September 11, 2001.

Those that harmed us on that day were attempting to steal from us our freedom. They did not succeed. They will not succeed. They will never take our spirit.

That day 2 years ago, marks many things for many people. It is images of horror. It is feelings of sadness. It brings striking appreciation for the precious fragility that is life.

For many of us, time will not wash away the hurt of that horrific moment. Though these things happened in New York, Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania, it was an attack on America. Through prayer and the support of our spouses and children, we survive. We move on. We persevere.

Today let our prayers remain with the victims, their souls, and their families during this time of immeasurable sadness. Our Nation grieves with you.

There are truly few moments in history when a Nation can agree the events of a day changed the world. September 11 is one of those days. Let us honor the people who gave their lives on September 11 and those both here and abroad who continue to work diligently to watch over us as we continue to go about our normal business. God bless America.

TRIBUTE TO MAI HONG ON THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF "A TOUCH OF ELEGANCE"

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished Californian, Mai Hong, as she celebrates the fourth anniversary of the opening of "A Touch of Elegance", her thriving Menlo Park salon, founded October 4, 1999.

Mai Hong has built a remarkable business with loyal customers from throughout the community together with her able team of Cindy, Amy, Julie, Danny, Kim and Brittany.

From the time Mai arrived in the United States from Viet Nam in 1984, she has built a better life for her two children, her mother, herself and so many others. Mai celebrates daily the privileges and responsibilities of her American citizenship.

How proud I am to honor her work, her values, and her deep love for her adopted country. She is a model for others to emulate and she is a woman I'm proud to call my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mai Hong and the entire "Touch of Elegance" team as they celebrate their fourth anniversary, a model business in California's 14th Congressional District.